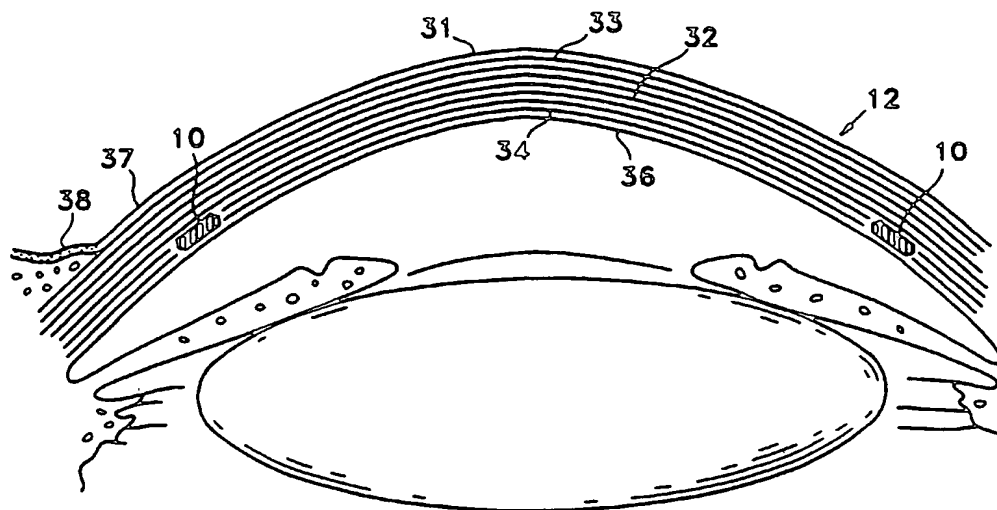




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<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/US94/08458 <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 28 July 1994 (28.07.94) <b>(30) Priority Data:</b> 08/101,440      2 August 1993 (02.08.93)      US <b>(60) Parent Application or Grant</b> <b>(63) Related by Continuation</b> US      08/101,440 (CIP) Filed on      2 August 1993 (02.08.93) <b>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):</b> KERAVISION, INC. [US/US]; 48630 Milmont Drive, Fremont, CA 94538-7353 (US). <b>(72) Inventor; and</b> <b>(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only):</b> SILVESTRINI, Thomas, A. [US/US]; 1701 Las Trampas Road, Alamo, CA 94507 (US). <b>(74) Agents:</b> CAGAN, Felissa, H. et al.; Morrison & Foerster, 755 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto, CA 94304-1018 (US).		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> AM, AT, AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MN, MW, NL, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SI, SK, TJ, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG), ARIPO patent (KE, MW, SD).  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>

(54) Title: SEGMENTED PLIABLE INTRASTROMAL CORNEAL INSERT



## (57) Abstract

This invention is a pliable intrastromal corneal insert (10) designed to be inserted into an inter-lamellar channel made within the cornea of a mammalian eye. It is made of a physiologically compatible polymer and may be used to adjust corneal curvature and thereby correct vision abnormalities. The insert (10) or segment may also be used to deliver therapeutic or diagnostic agents to the corneal interior or to the interior of the eye. The insert (10) subtends at least a portion of a ring, or "arc", encircling the anterior cornea (33) outside of the cornea's field of view but within the cornea's frontal diameter. The invention also includes both a minimally invasive procedure for inserting one or more of the devices into the cornea (12) as well as the thus corrected eye.